

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B)  
CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON  
THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: Alfred S. Despres III et al.  
Serial No.: 09/079,502  
Filing Date: 05/14/98  
Title: IMPLANT WITH COMPOSITE COATING  
Group Art Unit: 3738  
Examiner: S. Jackson  
Attorney's Docket No.: 13928 (HAYES079502)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 6, please insert:

-- Reference To Pending Prior Patent Application

This is a continuation of pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/079,502, filed 05/14/98 by Alfred S. Despres III, Eugene J. Elwood, Robert J. Aharonov, Peter Ehlers, and Knut Andersen for IMPLANT WITH COMPOSITE COATING.

Remarks

As noted in the accompanying REQUEST FOR FILING RULE 1.53(B) CONTINUATION APPLICATION, this is a continuation of pending prior application Serial No. 09/079,502 filed 05/14/98 by Alfred S. Despres III, Eugene Elwood, Robert R. Aharonov, Peter Ehlers, and Knut Andersen for IMPLANT WITH COMPOSITE COATING. The above amendment is intended to make this fact of record in the specification of this continuation application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thank you.

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